



Thank Mr. Chairman and committee members. I am Diane Jackson, the Interim Airport Manager for Tweed-New Haven Airport.

Over the last 3 years the Airport Authority has been implementing improvements at and around the airport to improve the performance of the airport with regard to safety and passenger considerations. Some of these improvements have included the removal of off-airport obstructions, primarily trees, through our voluntary obstruction removal program, which has been very successful. We have invested approximately over \$1.5 million dollars on this project.

In addition to obstruction removal, we have 3 other large-scale projects being completed currently at the airport. The first of these are the Wildlife Deterrent Fence that will enclose the whole airport along its perimeter. The second of these is the second phase of our parking lot reconstruction, which is reconstructing the access road, taxi loading area and installing new signage around the newly constructed parking lot. This project will be \$1.8 million dollars upon completion. Our third project is the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of implementing our Part 150 Noise Study. We anticipate having an engineering firm on contract by May of this year.

All of these projects are funded by a combination of Federal, State and Local funds and are in an effort to improve the safety and performance of the airport. Paving the Runway Safety Area will not necessitate acquiring any additional off-airport property. Moving forward with this project will allow us to simply pave the existing grass safety areas in order to enhance both take off and landing capabilities of the current aircraft using the airport.

As you can see, we have been making significant investments in safety and community outreach in an effort to improve the level of confidence in the surrounding area as well as for the airport users.

Tweed-New Haven Airport is in a much better position than it was just 5 years ago.